

LEONIDAS RALPH MECHAM Director

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS

CLARENCE A. LEE, IR. Associate Director

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20544

April 1, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO: JUDGES, UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURTS CLERKS, UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURTS

SUBJECT: Re-enactment of Chapter 12 of the Bankruptcy Code (IMPORTANT INFORMATION)

On Tuesday March 31, 1999, the President signed into law H.R. 808, which extends Chapter 12 of the Bankruptcy Code (which was due to expire on April 1, 1999) for six months, to October 1, 1999. A provision that would make Chapter 12 a permanent feature of the Bankruptcy Code is contained in both the House and Senate versions of the pending bankruptcy reform bills.

Chapter 12, which allows family farmers with regular income to adjust their debts, was repealed by prior law on October 1, 1998. See Pub. L. No. 99-554, 100 Stat. 3124 (1986), as amended by Pub. L. No. 103-65, 107 Stat. 311 (1993). Chapter 12 was subsequently re-enacted on October 27, 1998. See Pub. L. No. 105-277 (1998).

Should you have any questions relating to this issue, please contact Mary Louise Mitterhoff or Mary Fritsche of the Bankruptcy Court Administration Division at 202/502-1540, or John Howard of the Bankruptcy Judges Division at 202/502-1900.

Leonidas Ralph Mecham

cc: Bankruptcy Administrators